

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 064697
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EA/EP/MHENDERSON

APPROVED BY:EA/EP/MHENDERSON

-----101364 141830Z /43

R 141236Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 064697

FOLLOWING REPEAT SINGAPORE 1135 ACTION SECSTATE

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 1135

DEPT PASS ALL EA POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN

SUBJ: APCAC MEETING IN SINGAPORE

REF: A) STATE 58059 (NOTAL) B) SINGAPORE 1094

1. APCAC HELD SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING IN SINGAPORE FEBRUARY 24-27 ATTENDED BY SOME 75 AMCHAM REPS AND THEIR WIVES FROM OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES AS WELL AS LARGE SINGAPORE CONTINGENT. APCAC MEETINGS WERE ATTENDED BY DAS HEGINBOTHAM, AND COMMERCE DAS MORAN AS WELL AS OTHER WASHINGTON AGENCY REPS AND ECONOMIC COUNSELORS FROM SEVERAL EA EMBASSIES. APCAC MEETINGS WERE FOLLOWED BY REGIONAL ECONOMIC COUNSELORS' MEETINGS WHICH INCLUDED JOINT SESSION WITH APCAC REPS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 064697

2. FIRST PLENARY SESSION WAS OPENED BY AMBASSADOR, WHO SET TONE FOR MEETINGS BY STRESSING NEED AND OPPORTUNITY FOR USG AND US BUSINESS TO WORK MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER TO THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT DESPITE INEVITABLE DIFFERENCES. DAS MORAN ALSO ADDRESSED SESSION, DESCRIBING USG PROGRAMS TO ASSIST BUSINESSMEN AND NOTING ADDITIONAL IMPETUS GIVEN TO THESE PROGRAMS BY SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT,

AS STATED IN HIS RECENT LETTER TO AMBASSADORS, AND BY MORE AGGRESSIVE APPROACH TO EXPORT FINANCING BY EXIM BANK. DAS HEGINBOTHAM SPOKE AT LATER SESSION WHERE HE WENT INTO CONSIDERABLE DETAIL REGARDING US POLICY TOWARD ASIA, PARTICULARLY TOWARD JAPAN AND ASEAN, AND INFORMED APCAC OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON SUCH SUBJECTS AS TAX DEFERRAL AND SECTION 911. THESE STATEMENTS BY USG REPS AND THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ENSUING SESSIONS WERE EXTREMELY USEFUL IN KEEPING USG-APCAC DIALOGUE ON CONSTRUCTIVE BASIS AND AVOIDING ACRIMONY WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED SOME PAST APCAC CONFERENCES.

3. COOPERATIVE ATMOSPHERE WAS PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN STAVING OFF PROPOSED APCAC RESOLUTION CALLING UPON USG TO LIFT BAN ON TRADE WITH VIETNAM. AFTER LENGTHY DEBATE, INCLUDING EXPLANATION OF USG POSITION BY DAS HEGINBOTHAM, APCAC DECIDED ON UNPUBLICIZED LETTER REQUESTING USG CONSIDERATION OF US BUSINESS' INTEREST IN TRADE RATHER THAN PUBLIC RESOLUTION.

4. ONE HIGH POINT OF CONFERENCE WAS WELL-ATTENDED ADDRESS BY PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW, WHO MADE PITCH FOR USG SUPPORT FOR US PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN ASIA AS "ECONOMIC FRONT LINE" IN ACHIEVING US OBJECTIVES IN AREA. LEE ABBREVIATED HIS PREPARED REMARKS (I WON'T BORE YOU WITH THE REST OF THIS; YOU CAN READ IT IN THE PRESS TOMORROW") TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 064697

ANSWER WITH SKILL AND GOOD HUMOR QUESTIONS ON SUBJECTS RANGING FROM SITUATION IN INDOCHINA TO HOW US BUSINESS SHOULD ORGANIZE TO MEET JAPANESE COMPETITION. HE WAS GIVEN ROUSING OVATION AT CONCLUSION.

5. MOST TANGIBLE RESULT OF CONFERENCE WAS SET OF APCAC RESOLUTIONS, TO BE DEVELOPED INTO ACTION PROGRAMS:

--ASEAN. RESOLUTION ENCOURAGES MORE STRUCTURED APPROACH BY USG, SUPPORTS FORMATION OF ASEAN-US BUSINESS COUNCIL.

--PROTECTIONISM. DEPLORES TREND IN ANY FORM, URGES PRESSURE ON US LEGISLATORS AND LABOR LEADERS.

--TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. URGES NO BARS EXCEPT ON NATIONAL SECURITY GROUNDS; CALLS FOR RESISTANCE TO MOVE TO WEAKEN PATENT, COPYRIGHT LAWS.

--CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. ENCOURAGES PROMULGATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF OECD INVESTMENT PACKAGE; DEPLORES PROLIFERATION OF OTHER CODES, WHICH DETRACT FROM UNIVERSAL ACCEPTANCE OF OECD GUIDELINES.

--TAX DEFERRAL. XLQUUFNBLPRESENT LAW, OPPOSES PROPOSED

CHANGES.

--EXTRA-TERRITORIALITY. URGES CAUTION IN IMPOSITION OF U.S. STANDARDS ABROAD.

--SECURITY. URGES CONTINUED STRONG U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.

--SECTION 911. CALLS FOR FURTHER DEFERRAL OF NEW LAW UNTIL QUESTION CAN BE PROPERLY CONSIDERED.

--DISC. URGES CONTINUATION AND STRENGTHENING OF PROGRAM.

--OVERSEAS VOTING RIGHTS. CALLS ON HOUSE TO RECTIFY INJUSTICES DONE IN 1975 ACT.

--EXPANDING U.S. EXPORTS. CALLS FOR STRONGER EXIM BANK ROLE, EXPANDED U.S. TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETING CENTERS, SUPPORTIVE TAX LAWS AND REGULATED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 064697

LATIONS.

--DITI. SUPPORTS ROTH-RIBICOFF BILL FOR CREATION OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT.

6. JOINT APCAC-E/C OFFICERS SESSION WENT VERY WELL, WITH EMPHASIS ON AREAS OF COOPERATION. THE U.S. BUSINESSMEN APPEARED APPRECIATIVE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND LEFT THE MEETING WITH A REAL SENSE OF BEING IN DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR GOVERNMENT. THE PRESENCE OF DAS HEGINBOTHAM AND DAS MORAN OF COMMERCE ADDED GREATLY TO THE JOINT SESSION, AND THEIR PRESENCE AT APCAC SOCIAL EVENTS GAVE APCAC MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH THEM IN RELAXED SURROUNDINGS.

7. THE ONLY CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO COME OUT OF THE JOINT SESSION CONCERNED ASEAN. FIRST SUGGESTED LIBERALIZATION OF GSP RULES OF ORIGIN TO ALLOW GSP TREATMENT TO ASEAN AS A GROUP IN CASES WHERE A PRODUCT IS PROCESSED IN MORE THAN ONE ASEAN COUNTRY. THE SECOND PROPOSAL WAS FOR APCAC COMPANIES TO ARRANGE MEETINGS BETWEEN THEIR HEAD OFFICERS AND ASEAN REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON. HOLDRIDGE. UNQUOTE VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE064697
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/EP/MHENDERSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780113-0703
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780370/aaaachen.tel
Line Count: 160
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 25186ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 58059, 78 SINGAPORE 1094
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3337645
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APCAC MEETING IN SINGAPORE
TAGS: EGEN, XP, XB, US, APCAC
To: EA POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/25186ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014